

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A method for retrieving documents in a computer network, the method comprising:

displaying a set of one or more selectable data exchange modes in the vicinity of a cursor upon detecting that a user has pressed a button of a cursor control device while the cursor is inside a selectable area associated with a file reference;

detecting that the user has moved the cursor over a data exchange mode selected by the user from the set without releasing the button of the cursor control device;

canceling the display of the set upon detecting that the user has released the button of the cursor control device while keeping the cursor over the selected data exchange mode; and

issuing a request to retrieve data associated with the file reference in accordance with the selected data exchange mode.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

before issuing the request, modifying one or more configuration parameters of an Internet browser in accordance with the selected data exchange mode; and

restoring the one or more configuration parameters of the Internet browser upon processing the request.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein said issuing further comprises:

modifying the request issued by an Internet browser in accordance with the data exchange mode selected by the user.

4. Canceled.

5. Canceled.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the user selection of the data exchange mode affects only the data associated with the file reference.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the selected data exchange mode affects any one of the amount of user-specific information sent with the request, the amount of data sent by the server in response to the request, and the format of data sent by the server in response to the request.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein said issuing further comprises communicating with a network server storing the data associated with the identified file reference.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein said issuing further comprises communicating with a proxy, the proxy performing operations comprising:

modifying the request for data when required by the selected data exchange mode,

communicating with a network server storing the data associated with the file reference, and

modifying data received from the network server when required by the selected data exchange mode.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9 wherein the request for data communicated to the proxy contains an identifier of the selected data exchange mode.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein said issuing further comprises:
sending a request to retrieve data associated with the file reference to a first server, the request conforming to the selected data exchange mode;

receiving a response from the first server, the response indicating a new location of the data associated with the file reference; and

automatically issuing a second request to a second server using the new location, the second request conforming to the selected data exchange mode.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein:

data associated with the file reference is stored on a plurality of servers; and

said issuing further comprises sending a request to each of the plurality of servers, the request conforming to the selected data exchange mode.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein said issuing further comprises:

including an identifier of the selected data exchange mode; and

sending the request with the identifier of the selected data exchange mode to a first proxy.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13 further comprising:
the first proxy selecting a second proxy as a recipient of the request based on the identifier of the selected data exchange mode and a predefined set of operations performed by the second proxy.
15. (Original) The method of claim 13 further comprising:
the first proxy taking responsibility for performing a first portion of operations required by the selected data exchange mode; and
the first proxy selecting a second proxy for performing a second portion of operations required by the selected data exchange mode.
16. (Original) The method of claim 15 further comprising:
the first proxy updating the identifier of the data exchange mode with an identifier value associated with the second portion of operations; and
the first proxy sending the request with the updated identifier value to the second proxy.
17. Canceled.
18. Canceled.
19. Canceled.

20. Canceled.

21. Canceled.

22. Canceled.

23. Canceled.

24. (Previously Presented) A system for retrieving documents in a computer network, the system comprising:

a data exchange mode identifier to display a set of one or more selectable data exchange modes in the vicinity of a cursor upon detecting that a user has pressed a button of a the cursor control device while the cursor is inside a selectable area associated with a file reference, to detect that the user has moved the cursor over a data exchange mode selected by the user from the set without releasing the button of the cursor control device, and to cancel the display of the set upon detecting that the user has released the button of the cursor control device while keeping the cursor over the selected data exchange mode; and

a request modifier to modify a request to retrieve data associated with the file reference in accordance with the selected data exchange mode.

25. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 24 wherein determination of the data exchange mode remains valid only for the data associated with the file reference, and is updated after receiving indication of the next document selection by the user.

26. Canceled.

27. Canceled.

28. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium that provides instructions, which when executed on a processor, cause said processor to perform operations comprising:

displaying a set of one or more selectable data exchange modes in the vicinity of a cursor upon detecting that a user has pressed a button of a cursor control device while the cursor is inside a selectable area associated with a file reference;

detecting that the user has moved the cursor over a data exchange mode selected by the user from the set without releasing the button of the cursor control device;

canceling the display of the set upon detecting that the user has released the button of the cursor control device while keeping the cursor over the selected data exchange mode; and

issuing a request to retrieve data associated with the file reference in accordance with the selected data exchange mode.

29. Canceled.

30. Canceled.

31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the selectable area associated with the file reference is a hypertext link region.